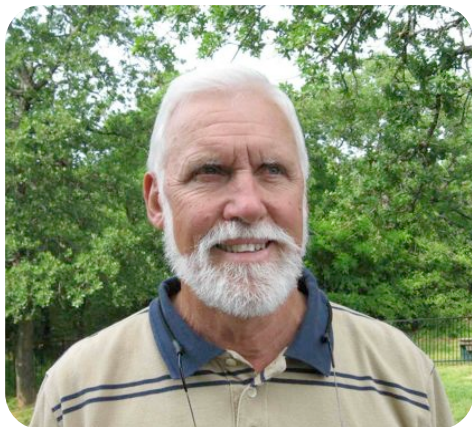


# The Cross Roads Times

Quarterly Publication of the Town of Cross Roads, Texas (Denton County)

## From the Mayor's Desk

*by Harv Kitchens, Mayor*



### FANTASTIC RUN

In May of 1994, all 16 citizens of Cross Roads who voted elected me as a Town Council Member for this Town. I served on the Town Council for eight years and then was elected mayor of Cross Roads. I have now been your Mayor for the last eight years. After sixteen years of elected service, I am stepping down from public office. I feel that it is time to let someone else lead our Town.

As I look back, it has been a fantastic run. The population of the Town was approximately 390 when I first went on Council and today it is approximately 790. The budget that year was \$33,000. Today it is \$479,000. Most of the roads in our Town were gravel or at best a limited coat of chip and seal. Today we still have a few

chip and seal roads, but the majority of the roads have been resurfaced properly with a two-inch layer of asphalt. These are just a few significant comparisons which indicate the growth and improvements that have taken place in our Town.

The time served, however, has not been without some significant challenges. In 2001, we had a developer who wanted to develop approximately 700 acres into a high-density home development. This proposal forced the Town to decide what we wanted to become. In May of 2002, the citizens of Cross Roads turned out in historic numbers to elect a council and mayor that they believed would best represent their desires for our Town. A 75 percent turnout of all

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registered voters proclaimed that they did not want to be a high density Town, but wanted to maintain the one-acre minimum residential lot size. This was the year I became your Mayor and Council members Ross Schraeder and Janice Russo were elected to support the incumbents, Virden Seybold and Anna Graef.

*Continued on page 2*

## From the Mayor's Desk... (continued)

The vision that we created at that time has been the backbone of this Town since then: a minimum one-acre residential lot size, no town property taxes, and a focus on repairing and improving the roads.

Another significant challenge during my time in elected office has been the development of three large residential subdivisions: The Village at Cross Roads, Forest Hills and Stone Mountain Estates. These developments required your Town Council to remain steadfast and insist on one-acre minimum lot size and to ensure that the creation of these subdivisions would not burden our citizens with any unnecessary cost or change the country feel and beauty of our community.

During this period, we were also presented with a huge commercial development challenge with The Village at Cross Roads -- often referred to as "the WalMart property". Your elected officials and appointed leaders spent many hours creating a Planned Development that would not cost the Town money, and would provide our citizens needed services as well as an attractive retail site following our Old Texas Country guidelines. While this development has not moved forward as envisioned, the development efforts are continuing. The owners are working to complete the signing of WalMart, which will then create interest for other retailers to join in the

completion of the development.

I want to thank all who have graciously served as elected officials, served on Task Forces and Committees, contributed to our campaigns through financial support and time, and who have selflessly supported me in the administration of our Town. I thank our Town Administrator Katherine Ritchie who has been very supportive during these times. She has become a very knowledgeable Town Administrator and has consistently provided me with the support needed in my role as Mayor.

These past sixteen years serving the Town has required many hours of my time. The most significant supporter that I have had is my wife Kay. She also has given of her time to work for the good of our Town. She is dedicated to Cross Roads and its welfare. Thank You, Kay, for all you do.

Cross Roads is in excellent shape with solid governance and leadership to continue with the vision. I plan to be available to the Mayor and Council as needed. I will continue to be passionate about Cross Roads as long as I live. I now want to encourage others to become involved with the Town as active participants in order to keep Cross Roads the Town we all want it to be.

## Katherine's Corner ... by Katherine Ritchie, Town Administrator



Harvey  
— Mayor in Abstention —

**Meet Harvey, the  
Town Hall cat. He  
thinks he is the boss.**

### RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE QUARTERLY UPDATE

1. The Town Council approved Ordinance #2010-0308-01 amending the comprehensive zoning ordinance and map of the Town of Cross Roads by granting a change in zoning from C2 Commercial district to R residential for approximately 2.548 acres of land described as lot 2 of Crossroads Village Estates II.
2. The Town Council approved Ordinance #2010-0308-02 amending article 8.04 of the current lighting regulation of Chapter 8 ("Offenses and Nuisances") of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Cross Roads to adopt new regulations relating to outdoor lighting.
3. Resolution #2010-0208-01 passed ordering an Election to be held on Saturday, May 8, 2010, to elect a Mayor, two (2) Council members, and a Special election to elect one (1) Council member to fill a vacancy of an unexpired term of 1 year.
4. Resolution #2010-0208-02 passed ordering a Special Election to be held on Saturday, May 8, 2010 to reauthorize the local sales and use tax in the Town of Cross Roads, Texas at the rate of ¼% to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets.

*Continued on Page 3*

## Katherine's Corner *(continued)*

### TOWN ELECTIONS

The polling places listed on the Cross Roads website ([www.crossroadstx.gov](http://www.crossroadstx.gov)) will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., May 8, 2010, for voting in a Special Election for the re-authorization of the local sales and use tax in the Town of Cross Roads Texas at a rate of 1/4 % to continue providing revenue for the maintenance and repair of municipal streets.

This year the Town has joined with Denton County and many of the local school districts, special utility districts, and other city governments to hold joint elections. The early voting and election-day locations are listed on the town website [www.crossroadstx.gov](http://www.crossroadstx.gov). You may vote early at any the locations listed there, but **on Election day, May 8, 2010, you must vote in the precinct where you are registered.** Please call the Denton County voter registrar (940 349-3200) to verify your precinct number. Precinct # 123 will vote at the Krugerville City Hall and precinct # 142 (new precinct this year) will vote at the Copeland Government Center on Election Day.

**Cross Roads**  
**Website**  
**Address**  
[www.crossroadstx.gov](http://www.crossroadstx.gov)



### **Please Welcome the New Residents and Businesses to Cross Roads**

Robert Peterson, 7700 Hwy 380

Yoga Studio, Kimberly Ames, 12000 Hwy 380, #106

Crystal Computer Consultants, 10000 Hwy 380, #100

Robert & Angela McMeen, 5600 FM 424

Ryan & Tanya Smith, 1625 Timber Ridge Trail

Can you believe that just 2 months ago we saw this much snowfall on February 11? Now we have wildflowers blooming. Texas is full of surprises!



Texas Bluebonnet



Indian Paintbrush



## Aubrey Area Library Receives Award...

by Larry Fisher

As Chair of the Aubrey Area Library Board and a proud citizen of Cross

Roads, I know you will be as pleased as I was when I learned that our area library has been awarded the **Texas Municipal Library Directors Achievement in Excellence in Libraries Award** for the third year in a row. Only 27 of the 500 public libraries in the state of Texas were presented this Achievement in Excellence award.

Next time you drop by the library, find Kathy Gilson, our director, and let her know how much you appreciate her work and the fine work of her dedicated staff. On staff is Jan Herbst from Cross Roads who runs the very successful children's programs.

I personally appreciate the financial support the Town of Cross Roads provides. I also thank the Cross Roads Council for their continuing interest in supporting our community through the library.



## Kernels from Kay

From time to time I ponder questions about human nature and world affairs. Below are some of these for your consideration.

1. Why are they called the Boston "S"eltics instead of the Boston "K"eltics?
2. Why when mothers keep their children it's called being a mother and when fathers do it it's called "babysitting"?
3. Why does everyone gather by the telephone to talk to mother when mother is on the phone?
4. Why is it impossible to fold a fitted sheet?
5. Why is there Braille lettering on a drive-up ATM pad?
6. Why do folks who would never dream of littering on the streets and byways drop their cigarette butts on the roadways? I say, "Watch your butts!"
7. Why are some things "uploaded" and others "downloaded" on the computer?
8. And, lastly - how MUCH wood could a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood? And- how do you chuck wood anyway?



Kay Lamb

## Local High School Student Receives Award

Sydney Evans, a resident of Cross Roads, Aubrey High School student, and student of Mr. Charles W. Milne at the Denton ISD Advanced Technology Complex, is a winner of the State SkillsUSA Contest. She won the award for her advertising entry "Legal Grounds: Coffee and Council". Students entered the Corporate Identity competition and created an image for a company including mission statements, logos, business cards and more for an imaginary corporation of their choice. The entries were judged on production quality, presentation, complexity, creativity and originality.

Congratulations to Sydney for her hard work and success.

## Meet Brant Weatherford

Brant Weatherford is a man of many talents, quick wit and deep thinking. He is an instructional technologist for the Denton ISD. His hobbies include playing acoustic music, riding motorcycles, and doing things in his “man-cave (garage).” He says that he’s “a secret agent for a secret organization but I can’t really talk about it because it’s a secret.” His favorite book is Black Elk Speaks, as told through John Neihardt. His favorite author is Hunter S. Thompson. He says his favorite movies are “Dr. Strangelove” and “2001 -A Space Odyssey” because both illustrate the fragile nature of the human condition and our quest for our demise and resurrection.’ Brant also likes “Easy Rider” because of the music and themes. He most admires Neil Young because of his musical creativity and belief that music is much more than lyrics and chords.

Brant and his wife Maureen McDonald have made Cross Roads their home for the last three years. They live in the Oak Bluff community. Maureen is Vice President of Human Resources with Dell Corporation. They moved here from Plain Old (Plano), Texas.

Education is important to their family. Brant has a B.S. degree in Education/Psychology, a Master of Education in Early Childhood Development, and has done post-graduate work in both Early Childhood Education and Computer Science. They have a son, Thomas Weatherford, who attends OU Law School. Their daughter, Kate Wignall, has graduated from NYC School of Visual Arts and will begin her Master of Fine Arts degree in Sculpture at the Rhode Island School of Design.

Brant likes the Oak Bluff/Cross Roads’ rural atmosphere and its close proximity to Denton. He enjoys having basic



services available, and having an open-approach to speaking with the Mayor and Council members about issues that affect the Town. When asked what he would change about Cross Roads if he could, he responded, “ I would dig a big moat around it with one drawbridge, and (then) I’d run the drawbridge.”

When asked where he likes to eat, he said that he likes to eat barbecue from Dickey’s at the Shell station on Highway 380. So, the next time you are in the Shell station, look for Brant and tell him you read about him here in the *Cross Roads Times* newsletter.

Cross Roads  
Town Park



The Town Park sign and landscaping are completed and add to the beauty of the park. The park is located North of Highway 380 at the Southwest corner of Fishtrap Road and FM 424.



## Town Nuisance Ordinance Adopted

A Nuisance Ordinance has been adopted by the Town Council. It is designed to supplement and to coordinate existing control efforts to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Cross Roads. This ordinance establishes standards regulating nuisances such as debris, waste, weeds, rubbish, brush and other unsanitary situations that may cause either health or safety conditions which must be addressed.

When a Nuisance Complaint is received by the Town, it will be assigned to the town's Code Enforcement Officer so that the matter can be investigated. The Code Enforcement Officer will investigate the complaint and take appropriate

action if it is determined that there is a violation. Normally the complaint is resolved by requesting that the property owner remove any situation/condition which is found to be in violation of the ordinance.



Cross Roads volunteers, elected officials and employees were recognized at the Mayor's Annual Appreciation Dinner held at The Prairie House Restaurant in February.



## History of Cross Roads...by Ross Schraeder

We all think of Cross Roads being at the south end of the horse country in Denton County. Whereas this is true, this same area has had many cattle ranches during the past two centuries. One of those ranches, the Caleb Julian Reding Ranch was in the area that is now Cross Roads. The ranch house was located on the land that is at the southeast corner of Fishtrap Road and FM 424, on what is now the Cross Roads Town Park, according to Dan "Butch" Reding, the great grandson of Caleb.

Caleb Reding's ranch was one of Texas' most historic ranches, and as such, the Caleb "C" brand was selected as one of only eight brands to be burned into the Denton County Branding Panel at the Kleberg Center at Texas A&M University. The brand was first used at the ranch in 1875. The photo to the right is of Dan Reding holding the Reding "C" brand at Texas A&M University

The picture below shows Caleb and his wife Mary with their three children, Stonewall Jackson, Grover Cleveland, and Doshia. Grover Cleveland was Dan "Butch" Reding's grandfather. The photo was taken in 1890. G.C. Reding's home place is shown in the next picture taken in 1913 at a family reunion.



*At the old Reding place, 1921.  
Pearl Mulliken's orphaned boy  
and Blackie Reding on  
Domine. Woodie Reding  
holding Domie's reigns.*



## **Town of Cross Roads, Texas**

*Harv Kitchens, Mayor*

*Ross Schraeder, Mayor Pro Tem*

*Tony Russo, Council Member*

*Viriden Seybold, Council Member*

*Steve Smith, Council Member*

*Katherine Ritchie, Town Administrator*

*Judy Moudy, Admin. Assist.*

*Jeanie Burch, Editor*

## **Cross Roads Town Hall**

PHONE: 940-365-9693

FAX: 940-665-6898

[www.crossroadstx.gov](http://www.crossroadstx.gov)

## **TOWN HALL MEETING SCHEDULE**



Town Council Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month

Planning & Zoning Commission meetings 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month

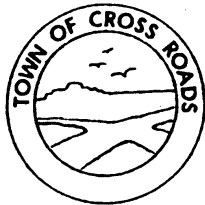
Road Repair Committee meetings the Thursday before the Town Council meeting

Comprehensive Planning Committee meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month

Town Council Workshop Meetings 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month

Park Board Meetings – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month

All meetings except Town Council Workshop start at 7:00 pm; Council Workshop starts at 5:00 pm. All meetings are open to the public and held at Town Hall unless specified otherwise on the agendas, which are posted on the front window of Town Hall. Please call Katherine Ritchie at Town Hall if you would like to join a committee to serve your community.



## **Town of Cross Roads**

1401 FM 424

Cross Roads, TX 76227